

NOTES

PUBLISHED FOR THE FRIENDS OF THE U.S. MARINE BAND

SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 1997

In Memoriam...

Colonel Albert F. Schoepper (1913-1997)

Colonel Albert F. Schoepper (USMC, Ret), former Director of "The President's Own" U.S. Marine Band and Music Advisor to the White House, passed away July 29 at Inova Alexandria Hospital in Virginia after suffering a stroke. He was 83.

Colonel Schoepper, Director of "The President's Own" from 1955 to 1972, performed as soloist and conductor before Kings, Queens, and Presidents for nearly four decades. He directed hundreds of White House engagements as well as the official ceremonies for the Inaugurations of Presidents Eisenhower, Kennedy, Johnson, and Nixon.

"Colonel Schoepper was something of a legend to those who have followed the activities of the Marine Band over the past 40 years," said Marine Band Director Lieutenant Colonel Timothy W. Foley. "His performances were characterized by astounding technical and rhythmic precision, sustained intensity, dignity of expression, and he achieved these results with remarkable efficiency. Colonel Schoepper's performances with the Marine Band between 1955 and 1972 are, for many people, still the benchmark by which bands are measured."

Born in Rochester, NY, on October 22, 1913, he began his musical training at age 7 with violinist Alfred Perrot. He entered the Eastman School of Music (Rochester, NY) while still in high school to study with Gustav Tintlot. He also studied violin and conducting under



Andrew Polah of Syracuse University (Syracuse, NY).

Colonel Schoepper joined the Marine Band in 1934. During his early years, he was a frequent violin soloist on network radio programs and was Concertmaster of the Marine Chamber Orchestra. He made his first appearance as conductor at the White House in 1942 before King George of Greece. Later, while the White House was being renovated, he conducted all the Blair House engagements for President and Mrs. Truman.

Colonel Schoepper once told *The Washington Post* he couldn't recall the number of times he had played The Marines' Hymn during his career. But he said he would never forget the day in 1942 his "favorite VIP," Sir Winston Churchill, requested "that great Marine song" and proceeded to sing with the band.

Schoepper, the first Marine Band Director to attain the rank of full Colonel, led the band on 18 consecutive national concert tours. While Director, Colonel Schoepper was Music Director for Washington's prestigious Gridiron Club and was a member of the Alfalfa Club and the Military Order of the Carabao. Among his many military decorations are the Navy Commendation Medal and the Legion of Merit.

At Colonel Schoepper's last White House appearance before retiring in 1972, President Nixon called him into the East Room from conducting the Marine

Chamber Orchestra in the lobby. The President introduced him to the guests and proposed a toast in his honor, reported the *Washington Evening Star*. "The guests—retiring members of the House and Senate—responded by rising and saluting Schoepper."

The Secretary of the Navy at that time, John H. Chafee, hailed Colonel Schoepper for his progressive leadership

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ACTIVITIES UPDATE

Marine Band Announces 1997 Tour to Northeast

The President's Own" is preparing to depart next month on its annual fall concert tour. This year the band will visit the Northeast region.

From October 5 through November 23, "The President's Own" will perform in 11 states, including northern and eastern Maryland, Delaware, northern and eastern Pennsylvania, New Jersey, New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Vermont, and Maine. The band will perform 47 concerts in 50 days before an estimated 93,000 people.

Recognizing the rich musical tradition of the region, Director Lieutenant Colonel Timothy W. Foley has planned tour programs that highlight the music of New England composers.

"Several composers from this region have made extremely significant contributions to the band repertoire. Our concerts will feature compositions by George Whitfield Chadwick, Vincent Persichetti, Aaron Copland, Howard Hanson, and Charles Ives," LtCol Foley said. He has also programmed familiar marches by bandmasters R.B. Hall, William Paris Chambers, and Edwin Franko Goldman.

In the tradition of the band's 17th director, John Philip Sousa, the tour programs will also include popular orchestral transcriptions and feature Marine Band musicians as soloists. Gunnery Sergeant Frederick Marcellus, a frequent tour soloist, will once again perform a cornet solo, and principal clarinetist Master Sergeant Lisa Kadala and assistant principal clarinetist Gunnery Sergeant Jeffrey Strouf will play Mendelssohn's Concert Piece No. 2. For his 28th consecutive tour, vocalist Master Gunnery Sergeant Michael Ryan will perform operatic arias and popular Broadway melodies.

"The President's Own" has been touring the United States since 1891 when Sousa organized the first national concert tour. Today, the Marine Band tours in the fall and rarely leaves the Washington, DC, area at other times because of a heavy schedule of White House events, ceremonial commitments, and public performances.

For more information about the 1997 Concert Tour, please see the tour schedule on pages 3, 4, and 6.

October Concerts Feature Chamber Music

The Marine Band's Autumn Chamber Music Recital Series returns this fall for the third year. The series takes place Sundays, October 12, 19, and 26, at 2 p.m. in the John Philip Sousa Band Hall, located at Marine Barracks, 8th and I Streets, SE, Washington, DC. Doors open at 1:30 p.m.

The programs highlight the individual virtuosity of "The President's Own," providing both the musicians and audience a unique opportunity to experience a wide array of chamber works. The concerts are free, and tickets are not required. Free parking is available at Marine Barracks.

For more information, call the Marine Band Concert Information Line at (202) 433-4011.

White House Highlights

Recent Marine Band performances at the White House include:

- Reception for White House volunteers
- Reception for Presidential Scholars
- The annual Fourth of July fireworks
- Reception for Boys Nation participants

Schoepper

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and said he "succeeded in building a musical organization which has received national and international acclaim and which is now regarded as one of the foremost bands in the world."

In retirement, Colonel Schoepper maintained a close relationship with "The President's Own." He was the featured guest conductor at a number of Marine Band performances, including the band's 190th anniversary concert at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and most

recently at last year's Change of Command and retirement concert for former Director Colonel John R. Bourgeois (USMC, Ret) who joined the band in 1958 under Schoepper.

"He took me into the band and gave me the opportunity of my lifetime, and I will always be indebted to him," Colonel Bourgeois said. "He was a titan and greatly influenced my work."

Colonel Schoepper is survived by his wife of 56 years, Laura Schoepper, daughter Barbara Avery, and four grandchildren.



Colonel Schoepper escorts First Lady Jacqueline Kennedy at a Congressional Wives' Luncheon at which the band performed in 1962.

1997 TOUR SCHEDULE

The dates and locations for 1997 tour concerts are listed below. Times and locations are subject to change. For ticket information call the numbers listed or write to the addresses below, attention "Marine Band Concert Tickets."

October

Sunday, October 5

Emmitsburg, MD

Mt. St. Mary's College, Knott Arena 3 p.m.

The Frederick News-Post

P.O. Box 578

Frederick, MD 21705-0578

800-486-1177

Monday, October 6

York, PA

Strand Theatre 7:30 p.m.

Strand-Capitol Perf. Arts Center, Inc.

50 North George Street

York, PA 17401-1264

717-846-1155

Tuesday, October 7

Williamsport, PA

Community Arts Center 7:30 p.m.

Williamsport Area School District

District Service Center

201 West Third Street

Williamsport, PA 17701-6463

717-327-5500 ext. 3518

Wednesday, October 8

State College, PA

Penn State University, Eisenhower Auditorium

7:30 p.m.

Penn State Bands

101 Music Building II

The Pennsylvania State University

University Park, PA 16802-1903

814-865-3982

Thursday, October 9

New Wilmington, PA

Westminster College, Orr Auditorium 8 p.m.

Westminster College

North Hall

New Wilmington, PA 16172-0001

412-946-7354

Friday, October 10

Erie, PA

Warner Theater 7:30 p.m.

Erie Area Chamber of Commerce

1006 State Street

Erie, PA 16501

814-454-7191

Saturday, October 11

Jamestown, NY

Jamestown H.S. Auditorium 8 p.m.

Jamestown H.S. Band

350 East 2nd Street

Jamestown, NY 14701

716-483-4217

Sunday, October 12

Buffalo, NY

SUNY, University at Buffalo

Center for the Arts 3 p.m.

SUNY, University at Buffalo

103 Center for the Arts

Buffalo, NY 14260-6000

716-645-2787

Monday, October 13

Rochester, NY

Eastman Theatre 7:30 p.m.

City of Rochester

Department of Parks, Recreation, and

Human Services

30 Church Street, Room 222-B

Rochester, NY 14614

716-428-6690

Tuesday, October 14

Ithaca, NY

Cornell University, Bailey Hall 7:30 p.m.

The Ithaca Journal

123 West State Street

Ithaca, NY 14850

607-274-9264

Wednesday, October 15

Syracuse, NY

Landmark Theater 7:30 p.m.

City of Syracuse

412 Spencer Street

Syracuse, NY 13204

315-473-4330

Friday, October 17

Philadelphia, NY

Indian River Theater of the Performing Arts

7:30 p.m.

Watertown Daily Times

Attn: Barbara Peck

260 Washington Street

Watertown, NY 13601

315-782-1000 ext. 298

Saturday, October 18

Rome, NY

Capitol Theatre 7:30 p.m.

Daily Sentinel

333 West Dominick Street

Rome, NY 13442-0471

315-337-4000

Sunday, October 19

Albany, NY

The Palace Theatre 3 p.m.

Times Union

Attn: Marianne Mahr

P.O. Box 15000

Albany, NY 12212

518-454-5589

Monday, October 20

Springfield, MA

Springfield Symphony Hall 7:30 p.m.

City of Springfield

Veterans' Service Department

36 Court Street

Springfield, MA 01103

413-787-6148

Tuesday, October 21

Greenfield, MA

Greenfield H.S. Auditorium 7:30 p.m.

The Recorder

P.O. Box 1367

Greenfield, MA 01302

413-772-0261 ext. 211

Wednesday, October 22

Concord, NH

Capitol Center for the Arts 7:30 p.m.

Capitol Center for the Arts

44 South Main Street

Concord, NH 03301

603-225-1111

Thursday, October 23

St. Albans, VT

Collins Perley Sports Center 7:30 p.m.

Bellows Free Academy

71 South Main Street

St. Albans, VT 05478

802-527-7576 ext. 131

Friday, October 24

Northfield, VT

Norwich University, Shapiro Field House 7:30 p.m.

NROTC Unit

Norwich University

Northfield, VT 05663

802-485-2578

Saturday, October 25

Claremont, NH
Stevens H.S. Gymnasium 7:30 p.m.
Eagle Times
 RD 2 Box 301 River Road
 Claremont, NH 03743
 603-543-3100

Sunday, October 26

Rochester, NH
Rochester Community Center 3 p.m.
 City of Rochester
 City Hall
 31 Wakefield Street
 Rochester, NH 03867
 603-332-1167

Monday, October 27

Orono, ME
Maine Center for the Arts 7 p.m.
 Maine Center for the Arts
 Attn: Box Office
 University of Maine
 Orono, ME 04469
 207-581-1755 or 1766

Wednesday, October 29

Augusta, ME
Augusta Civic Center 7:30 p.m.
 Augusta Civic Center
 Community Drive
 Augusta, ME 04330
 207-626-2400

Thursday, October 30

Lawrence, MA
Central Catholic H.S. Gymnasium 7:30 p.m.
The Eagle-Tribune
 Attn: Ellen Howard
 Box One Hundred
 Lawrence, MA 01842
 508-685-1000

Friday, October 31

Boston, MA
Symphony Hall 8 p.m.
The Boston Globe
 P.O. Box 2378
 Boston, MA 02107-2378
 617-929-2672

November

Saturday, November 1

Wenham, MA
Gordon College, A. J. Gordon Memorial Chapel 7:30 p.m.
 Gordon College
 Office of College Communications
 255 Grapevine Road
 Wenham, MA 01984
 508-927-2306 ext 4235

Sunday, November 2

New Bedford, MA
Zeiterion Theatre 3 p.m.
 Office of Cultural Development
 608 Pleasant Street
 New Bedford, MA 02740
 508-979-1476 or 1478

Monday, November 3

Newport, RI
Rogers H.S. Auditorium 7:30 p.m.
The Newport Daily News
 101 Malbone Road
 Newport, RI 02840
 401-849-3300

Tuesday, November 4

Manchester, CT
Manchester H.S. Auditorium 7:30 p.m.
 Manchester H.S.
 134 East Middle Turnpike
 Manchester, CT 06040
 860-647-3546

Wednesday, November 5

Waterbury, CT
Kennedy H.S. Auditorium 8 p.m.
 Wilby H.S.
 Attn: 1stSgt Weber
 460 Bucks Hill Road
 Waterbury, CT 06704
 203-757-7929

Thursday, November 6

Ridgefield, CT
Ridgefield H.S. Auditorium 8 p.m.
 Ridgefield Kiwanis Club
 P.O. Box 395
 Ridgefield, CT 06877
 203-438-8684

Friday, November 7

New Haven, CT
Southern Connecticut State University, Lyman Center for the Performing Arts 7:30 p.m.
 Lyman Center Box Office
 501 Crescent Street
 New Haven, CT 06515
 203-392-6154

Saturday, November 8

Brooklyn, NY
Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts 7:30 p.m.
 Brooklyn Center for the Performing Arts
 P.O. Box 100163
 Brooklyn, NY 11210-0163
 718-951-4500

Sunday, November 9

Brookville, NY
Tilles Center for the Performing Arts 7:30 p.m.
 Long Island University
 CW Post Campus
 Brookville, NY 11548
 516-299-3400

Monday, November 10

Woodbridge, NJ
Woodbridge H.S. Gymnasium 7:30 p.m.
 Township of Woodbridge
 Attn: Herb Gilsenberg
 One Main Street
 Woodbridge, NJ 07095
 908-602-6058

Tuesday, November 11

Wayne, NJ
Wayne Hills H.S. Gymnasium 8 p.m.
 Friends of Music of Wayne, Inc.
 31 Emerson Place
 Wayne, NJ 07470
 201-633-3107

Wednesday, November 12

Philadelphia, PA
Academy of Music 8 p.m.
 Philadelphia Council
 Navy League of the United States
 3346 West Penn Street
 Philadelphia, PA 19129
 215-844-7628

Thursday, November 13

Middletown, NY
Middletown Jr. H.S. Auditorium 7:30 p.m.
Times Herald-Record
 40 Mulberry Street
 Middletown, NY 10940
 914-341-1100 ext. 1516

Friday, November 14

Wilkes-Barre, PA
King's College, William S. Scandlon Physical Education Center 7:30 p.m.
The Citizens' Voice
 75 North Washington Street
 Wilkes-Barre, PA 18711
 717-821-2091

Saturday, November 15

Bethlehem, PA
Liberty H.S. Memorial Gymnasium 7:30 p.m.
The Morning Call
 P.O. Box 1260
 Allentown, PA 18105-1260
 610-820-6570

Sunday, November 16

Lansdale, PA
North Penn Sr. H.S. Auditorium 2:30 p.m.
 Borough of Lansdale
 Department of Parks and Recreation
 One Vine Street
 Lansdale, PA 19446
 215-368-1691

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BAND MEMBER NEWS

New Members

Librarian SSgt Jane Cross

of Morristown, TN, graduated from Morristown-Hamblen High School East in 1993. She studied music and English at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga and is completing a bachelor's degree in those subjects at George Mason University in Fairfax, VA. Prior to joining the band, she played clarinet and was Assistant Librarian with the 572nd Air National Guard Band in Tennessee.

Clarinetist SSgt Paul Demers

of Westbrook, ME, graduated from Westbrook High School in 1985. He earned bachelor's and master's degrees in music performance, as well as a performance certificate, from DePaul University in Chicago. Prior to joining the band, he performed with members of the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and taught clarinet at People's Community School and the DePaul School of Music Community Division.

Public Affairs Specialist SSgt Katie Freiburger

of Arlington Heights, IL, graduated from Rolling Meadows High School in 1990. She earned a bachelor's degree in communication from Quincy (IL) University. Prior to joining the band, she was Promotions Coordinator for Bands of America, Inc., a national non-profit organization dedicated to music education, and a marketing consultant for a musical production company in Chicago.

Librarian SSgt Preston Mitchell

of Lubbock, TX, graduated from Lubbock High School in 1987. He earned bachelor's and master's degrees in music education from Texas Tech University. He was a band director for the Abernathy and Lubbock Independent School Districts and, prior to joining the band, was a graduate assistant with the Texas Tech University bands.

Retirements

Master Gunnery Sergeant Earl Hurrey, Stage Manager, retired in August after serving 20 years in the Marine Corps, 18 of those with the Marine Band. A native of Huntingtown, MD, MGySgt Hurrey received a BME from Gettysburg College (PA) in 1975. He taught music before joining the Marine Corps in 1977. After graduating platoon honorman at recruit training, he reported to the Armed Forces School of Music, graduating first in his class. He joined "The President's Own" as a Librarian in 1980 and was appointed Stage Manager three years later. As Stage Manager, MGySgt Hurrey coordinated logistical and production requirements for 14 national concert tours and countless Marine Band rehearsals and performances in the Washington, DC, area.

Master Sergeant Robert Cassel, clarinetist, retired in July after serving 20 years in the military, 17 of those with "The President's Own." A native of Hershey, PA, MSgt Cassel received a BM in music education from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, a MM from the Peabody Conservatory of Music in Baltimore, and a DMA in performance at the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC. MSgt Cassel was featured as a soloist on several occasions with the band.

Gunnery Sergeant Denna Purdie, cellist, retired after serving 20 years with the Marine Band. A native of Washington, DC, GySgt Purdie studied cello at The Catholic University of America and the Levine School of Music, both in Washington, DC. During her career with "The President's Own," she performed with the Marine Chamber Orchestra hundreds of times at the White House for Presidents Ford, Carter, Reagan, Bush, and Clinton.

1997 Tour Schedule

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Tuesday, November 18

Trenton, NJ

Crescent Temple 7:30 p.m.

The Times

500 Perry Street

Trenton, NJ 08618

609-989-5452

Wednesday, November 19

Manahawkin, NJ

Southern Regional H.S. Gymnasium 7:30 p.m.

Long Beach Island Rotary Club

P.O. Box 394

Ship Bottom, NJ 08008

609-494-4001

Thursday, November 20

Atlantic City, NJ

Atlantic City H.S. Gymnasium 7:30 p.m.

City of Atlantic City, Division of Planning

Attn: Regina Armstrong

1301 Bacharach Boulevard, Room 508

Atlantic City, NJ 08401

609-347-5427

Friday, November 21

Wilmington, DE

Dickinson H.S. Auditorium 7:30 p.m.

Dickinson H.S. Performing Arts Boosters

Attn: Beth Schwartz

P.O. Box 1515

Hockessin, DE 19707

302-992-5500

Saturday, November 22

Dover, DE

Caesar Rodney H.S. Auditorium 7:30 p.m.

Delaware State News

P.O. Box 737

Dover, DE 19903

302-741-8210

Sunday, November 23

Centreville, MD

Queen Anne's County H.S. Auditorium 2:30 p.m.

Queen Anne's County Arts Council

Attn: Darcey Schoeninger

P.O. Box 218

Centreville, MD 21614

410-758-2520

Vacancy Announcement

The Marine Band announces auditions for the following vacancies:

Percussion: September 20

Harp: December 8

For information, write to:

Operations Officer, U.S. Marine Band

8th & I Streets, SE

Washington, DC 20390-5000

or call (202) 433-5714

NOTES

"The President's Own"

United States Marine Band

LtCol Timothy W. Foley, Director

Marine Barracks

8th and I Streets, SE

Washington, DC 20390-5000

Public Affairs Office (202) 433-5809

Concert Information Line (202) 433-4011

U.S. Marine Band photos

Moved? Please send your mailing label and new address. To update our mailing list we must have the keyline printed at the top of the label.

